

REMARKS

Claims 1-33 are pending. By this Preliminary Amendment, claims 24-27 are amended to eliminate multiple dependencies. Prompt and favorable examination on the merits is respectfully solicited.

Respectfully submitted,



James A. Oliff
Registration No. 27,075

Thomas J. Pardini
Registration No. 30,411

RECEIVED
MAY 4 - 2001
Technology Center 2100

JAO:TJP/crt

Date: July 6, 2000

OLIFF & BERRIDGE, PLC
P.O. Box 19928
Alexandria, Virginia 22320
Telephone: (703) 836-6400

005020 TEB0150